



Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

Washoe Environmental Protection Department

Building Tribal Capacity Through Environmental Grant Funding

Today's Presenters

Cale Pete Environmental Director

- Washoe Tribal Member
- B.S. Environmental Science - Haskell Indian Nations University
- 10 Years with the Washoe Environmental Protection Department (WEPD)
- Current Role – 1 YR
- EPA Region 9 RTOC Nevada At-Large Representative

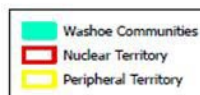
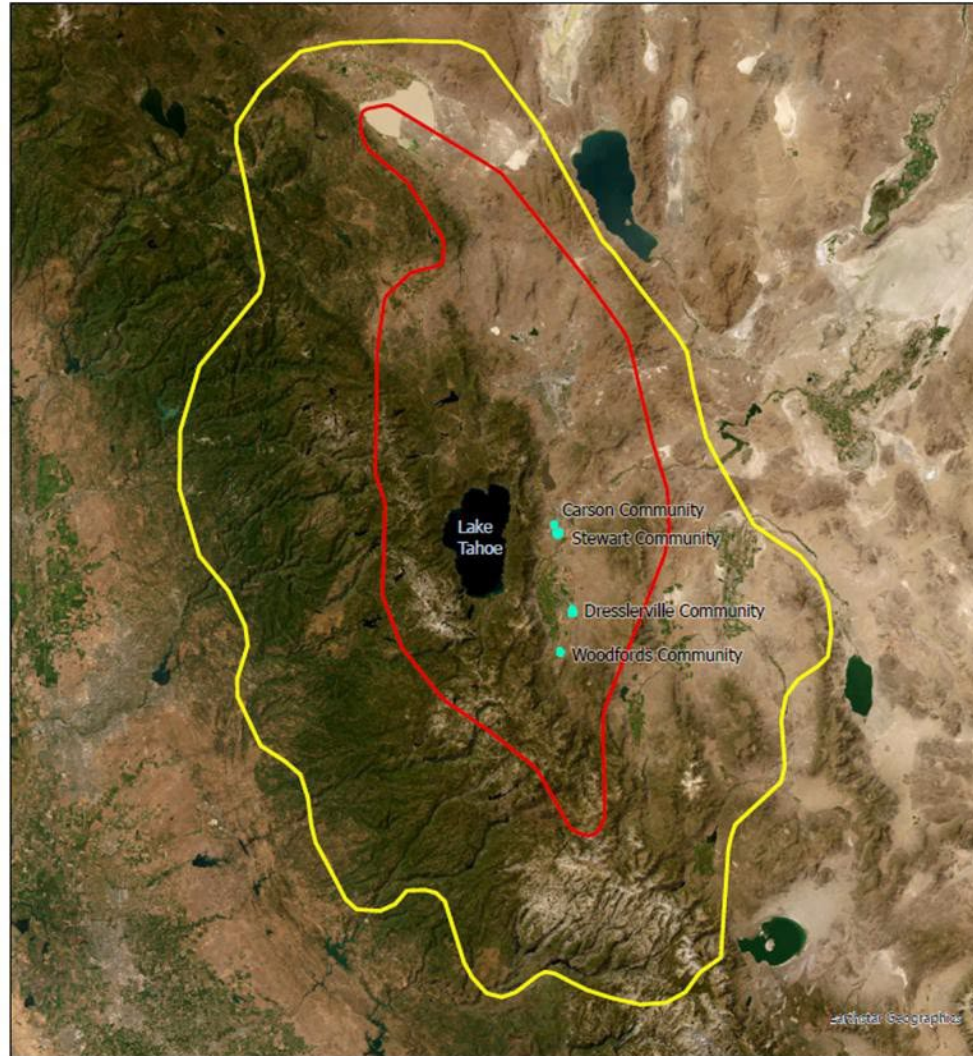


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Washoe Tribe Ancestral Boundaries

WEPD
A. Kerley
2/7/24



This data has been compiled on a geographic information system for the use of Washoe Tribe Environmental. The data does not represent survey delineation and should not be construed as a replacement for the authoritative source. The Washoe Tribe assumes no liability as to the sufficiency or accuracy of this data.

- Tribal Headquarters located in Gardnerville NV.
- Over 1300 Enrolled Tribal Members
- Tribal Communities (All have a Council)
 - Dresslerville
 - Stewart
 - Carson Colony
 - Woodfords
 - Off Reservation



Department Overview

Past

- Established in 1998
- One of the largest departments within Washoe in the 2000's. (20 staff)
- Grant Funded
- Community focused projects

Current

- 15 total staff
- Grant Funded (Diverse)
- Projects in homelands and community
- Collaborations with Federal, state, local agencies

Highlighted Projects

- Mayála Wàʼa Restoration Project (Pictured)
- BAER - BIA
- Pinyon Pine Restoration
- Leviathan Mine Superfund Site
- Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery



Grant Selection Process

- What is the timeline?
- Does this grant make sense for the Tribe?
- Does this grant protect or restore tribal natural/cultural resources?
- What does this grant do for tribal members.
- Do we have the capacity and skill set to successfully implement? Consultants needed?
- Do we have partners who can assist on project planning and implementation?
- Breaking hearts!



WEPD Grants

- Managing 33 Grants
- EPA, USFWS, BIA, USFS, State, etc.
- Unique funding – BAER, Stewardship, Cooperative Agreements.
- Grant Writing in-house.
- Diversifying grant funding.

WASHOE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT GRANT LIST			
#	Grantor	FUND	WEPD GRANT NAME:
1	FN	1060	Holding Fund/SageGrouse/2025 FIRST NATIONS
2	AR	2728	Dog Valley Meadow Restoration Plan-Washoe Capacity
3	BIA	2213	Invasive/Noxious Weeds
4	BIA	2240	Tamarisk Management & Control Invasive Species
5	BIA	2655	Numbers Fire BAER
6	BIA	2655-550	Connor Fire BAER
7	BIA	2691	Climate Travel
8	BIA	2712	Climate Resiliency (Washoe Holistic) Adaptation Plan
9	BIA-NRDA	2001	NRDA - Leviathan Funds (ECO NW)
#	CTC	2660	Mayala Wata Restoration Meeks Creek (PROP 68)
11	CTC	2687	Washoe Capacity Grant
#	CTC	2762	MEEKS Mâyala Wâta CONTRACTING
#	DAF	2787	DAF Giving360
#	EPA	2684	PPG Clean Water Act 106 & 319
#	EPA	2705	Leviathan Mine
#	EPA	2767	BROWNFIELDS
#	EPA	2769	TRIBAL CLEAN AIR GRANT
#	EPA	2771	GAP
#	EPA	2784	FIRE BRINGS WATER (FORCE MAJEURE)
#	EPA	2790	PPG Clean Water Act 106 & 319 FY27
#	EPA	2791	LEVIATHAN MINE SUPERFUND NRDA
#	FN	2725	FIRST NATIONS
#	FIRE	2755	WPRD FIRE
#	GNA	2751-111	WEPD Led Projects
#	GNA	2751-112	WPRD Led Projects
#	UC Berkeley	2766	PICCA - Pinyon Pine Stewardship working group
#	USFS	2759	LTBMU Stewardship Agreement
#	USFWS	2682	AIS & LCT 2022 - LAKE TAHOE
#	USFWS	2710	AIS & LCT 2023
#	USFWS	2738	AIS & LCT 2024
#	USFWS	2750	AIS & LCT 2025 FISH & AQUATIC CONSERVATION
#	USFWS	2764	TWG - Tribal Wildlife Grant FY25

Building Capacity with a New Team

- Significant turnover over the past 10 years.
- We are a younger team → training (marathon)
 - Staff first time exposure to working with a tribe.
 - Why we are doing the work we do.
 - Team/Department Culture
 - Administrative training
 - Reporting/EPA Application Template Updates (example)
 - Listening to staff → What do you need from me to be successful.
 - Staff Retention Updates



Building Rapport

Communication is Key

- Keeping Community Councils informed.
- Involving our tribal elders and youth.
- Working collaboratively with other Tribal departments and outside agencies. (Picture)
- EPA Project Officers – Project Officers understanding your program and proving overtime, you can successfully manage your grants.
- It is what you make it.



Stepping into a new Role

- State, federal, consulting....contracts less grant dollars
- Now entirely grant funded
- Shifted thought process



Opportunities created through grant funding—more than the dollars

Partnerships with outside agencies

Professional Growth
(conferences, trainings)

Community impact (Tribal engagement)



Learning

- Terminology/ EPA requirements
- Understanding tribal government process
- Reporting
- Budgets



Contact Information

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